



Cumberland Island National Seashore

St. Marys, Georgia



Spring 2005

Message from the Superintendent

Cumberland Island has entered into an exciting new era with the opening of the new visitor center and the waterfront development. We are now offering our visitors a more complete and enjoyable National Park Service experience. In just the first month of operation, we have already seen a tremendous increase in visitation. The new complex has really stimulated interest in visiting Cumberland Island. My compliments to the park staff for doing a great job of adjusting to their new roles and responsibilities.

Here are a few of the projects we will be starting within the next few months:

- Removal of asbestos from Plum Orchard as part of the planning and preparation for Phase 11 of the rehabilitation,
- Fuel reduction on the north end to reduce fire danger,
- Construction documents are being prepared for the stabilization of Dungeness,
- Installation of a communication tower behind the museum that will provide internet, phone service, and radio communications to the island,

- We will be expanding the museum to include a new exhibit about Fort Pickering.

As a result of the Cumberland Wilderness Adjustment Act of 2004, we will soon begin planning to transport visitors to the north end of the island.

I would like to thank all employees for making Cumberland Island a safe place to work. Also, my appreciation to both Brian Wentworth and Wayne Lagasse for teaching a great Boater Safety Course.

Jerre Brumbelow
Superintendent



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Island National Seashore
101 Wheeler Street
P.O. Box 806
St. Marys, Georgia 31558
www.nps.gov/cuis
cuis_superintendent@nps.gov

Park Visitor Center:
(912) 882-4336 ext.254
1-877-860-6787 (Reservations)

Park Headquarters:
(912) 882-4336

Administration

New ID Cards

In 2005, all civil servants will get “smart” identification cards. Called Personal Identity Verification cards, they will include biometrics – technology that utilizes physiological characteristics such as a photo and fingerprints, according to the project plan by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The directive said “Therefore, it is the policy of the United States to enhance security, increase government efficiency, reduce identity fraud and protect personal privacy [through the new card standards].”

New Travel Services Provider

As of March 1, 2005, CW Government Travel [CWGT] became the eTravel Services provider to the Department of Interior. The new vendor is in the process of gathering employee travel information from Omega but you will also be required to go online and establish a new profile by using www.cwgt.com. For the present time Travel Manager will continue to be used for the preparation of electronic travel authorizations and vouchers. The new vendor will have an on-line booking system and will serve the government from two established call centers, San Antonio, TX and Alexandria, VA. The agents are familiar with the government rules, contract fares and other government rates and are going to provide an after-hours call center dedicated to government travelers.

New POV Mileage Rate

As of February 4, 2005, the rate for use of a privately owned vehicle for official business was increased to \$40.5 cents per mile.

Telephone Calls While Traveling

While in an official travel capacity you are permitted one call home per day. Since hotels charge such exorbitant amounts for telephone calls, we no longer use the hotel's long distance services. So, please make certain to pick up a calling card from Budget Analyst Mary Jones prior to leaving on your travel, she keeps them on hand and a five - to-ten minute call each day is authorized. Also, please make certain to present a *Tax Exempt Form* to your hotel. This form can be obtained from Administrative Assistant Justin Helton.

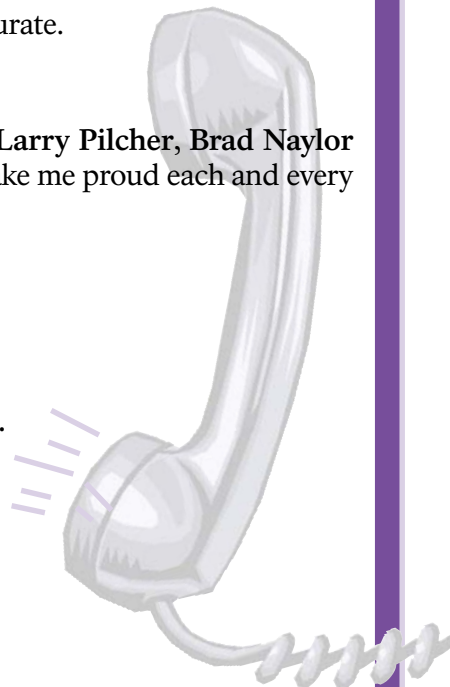
W-2's

By now all federal employees should have received their 2004 W-2's [Wage and Earning statements]. Make certain that you check each item on your W-2 and make certain it agrees with your personal Leave and Earning Statement for the final pay period of CY2004. Also, be certain to check your social security number, name, legal address and taxable wages. Any mistakes made on your W-2 can be corrected by our Payroll Office. Having the correct information entered in all of the boxes on your W-2 is critical for proper credit by the Social Security Administration not only for tabulating quarters earned but also to make certain that retirement benefits claimed from Social Security are accurate.

Administrative Staff

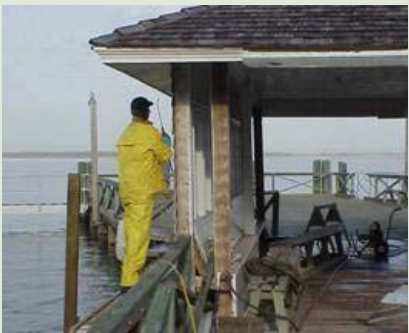
My thanks to Mary Jones, Larry Pilcher, Brad Naylor and Justin Helton. You make me proud each and every day!

Until next time.....
julie



Maintenance Division

Welcome to Charlene Keeney, Nathan Enos and Phillip Banks who have joined our Maintenance staff. They will work with us through September assisting with several projects on the Island.



Repair/Rehab projects this fiscal year include rehabilitation of the Black Barracks and exterior repairs to various other historic structures. The funding for these projects is specific to the individual projects with the target completion date no later than September 30, 2005. The YCC kitchen interior is also getting a “much needed” face lift. Our aim is to be finished in time for the archeologists retreat on Cumberland Island in October. Mickey Bosworth, Fred Forbes and Wayne Lagasse are serving as project leaders and



are well within their time line goals even with the visitor’s path through the work Mickey is doing at the Dungeness Dockhouse.



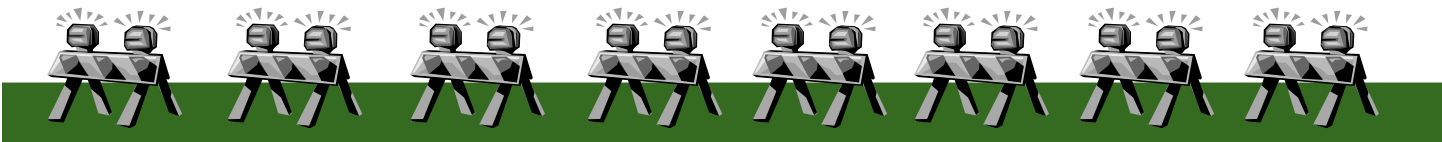
The Coast Guard held a training session using underwater self propelled cameras under the Mocama this month. They are strengthening their skills in the operation of these devices in hopes that it will enable them to more efficiently scope vessel hulls to deter any terror activity. They also reported the Mocama had enough shrimp under it for a low country boil.



Recently Brian Forschler and his colleagues from the Department of Entomology at the University of Georgia conducted a termite inspection at Plum Orchard, the Carriage House and the Tabby house. They actually crawled under through air ducts looking for activity. However, they reported that there was only minimal damage and presented us with a few treatable options. Brian and his crew left the suspects a little “Termador” snack.



The countdown is on... Jeff Lewis is only three field projects away from completing the Arborist training. This program was sponsored by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. Way to go Jeff!!



Mardi Gras!

Thanks to Eric and Gladwyn Ulitalo for throwing yet another wonderful Mardi Gras party. Fun was had by all and the food was delicious!



Government Purchase Card

1. You may use your card to purchase good or services not to exceed the micro-purchase threshold of \$2500.00, except in the case of construction subject to the Davis-Bacon Act, in which case the threshold is \$2000.00. You can not split orders to avoid these thresholds.
2. You still should get at least two verbal quotes before making an acquisition and you should get the best value for the government when making that acquisition.
3. You should try and rotate vendors and/or suppliers to allow fair competition in supplying the government's needs.
4. Requirements over the thresholds mentioned above should be forwarded on a signed DI-1 by your supervisor to the Purchasing Agent for processing, whenever possible you should identify sources and/or descriptions of the items needed.
5. You have NO Authority, however, to solicit offers, issue orders, modify contracts, conduct any government business, or in anyway commit the government, above your purchase authority as stated above.
6. You can be held responsible for payment for any acquisition performed outside of these thresholds.

Please contact me if you have any question concerning any acquisitions before contacting any vendors and/or suppliers.

Larry M Pilcher
Purchasing Agent, CUIS

The original Cumberland Island National Seashore Visitor Center finally lived up to its status of “temporary” on February 23, 2005, when it was demolished. The new spacious 8100-square feet structure now stands on the St Marys Waterfront and is a replica of Miller’s Dock, an old St. Marys landmark.



Old Visitor Center halfway torn down

to frequently asked questions as well as maps to orient the visitors.

The new center features an exhibit depicting glimpses back in a time to the Carnegie’s family life at the turn of the twentieth century. This display case contains a wooden tennis racket, cosmetics and photographs of the Carnegies while they resided at Dungeness Mansion.



Exhibit cases

This new Visitor Center and its landscaping nicely compliment the already authentic beauty of St. Mary’s Waterfront. The park’s walkways and landscaping surrounding the new

Other exhibits tell a story of the Timucuan Indians, the life in saltwater marshes surrounding the island, the primary and secondary dune

CUIS Visitor Center: *A New Beginning*



The Gazebo

building blend aesthetically with the adjacent Howard Gilman Memorial Waterfront Park. A gazebo near the ferry dock is modeled after one in the city park and

systems, the barrier ecosystem including the marine life, and the maritime forest areas of the island. One of the most popular displays among tourists is one that shows a cutaway view of a nest of loggerhead turtles during hatching.

simulates a sense of continuity all along the waterfront. Signs are placed along the brick and tabby walkways, depicting both the natural and cultural resources of the island, pertinent safety messages for the visitors, answers



One of the many signs placed along walkway



New Visitor Center with maintenance headquarters to the right and Gazebo to the left

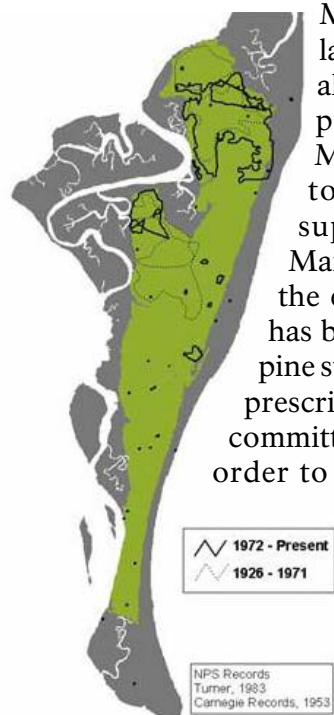
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Fire Management Plan Completed:

FMO Dawn Greenlee has completed a Fire Management Plan for the Park. Because the Resource



Historic Fires on Cumberland

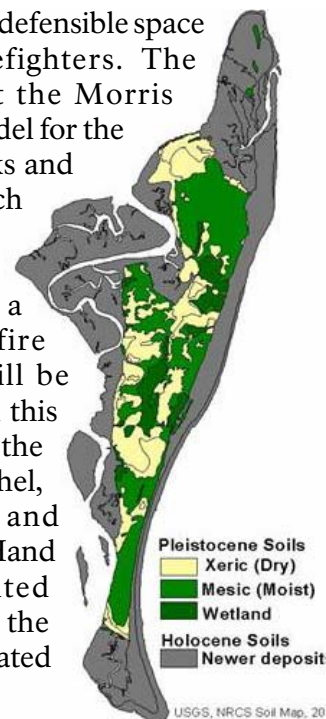
Management Plan, which was last updated in 1984, does not allow for wildland fire use and prescribed fire, the Fire Management Plan was bound to only address fire suppression. The Fire Management Plan does review the effects that fire suppression has been having on the Longleaf pine stands on the Island. The Plan prescribes additional resources be committed to fires on the island in order to put out smoldering in the thick mat of pine needles which has accumulated during over 70 years of fire exclusion in many Longleaf pine areas. Researchers have found that if more than 30% of the pine needles and associated fine roots are consumed or removed at one time, pines can be killed.

There will be a **Meeting** about the Fire Management Plan on **Tuesday, April 19th** at the Captains House. Everyone is welcome

Hazardous Fuel Reduction: Protecting private structures from wildland fire:

The President's National Fire Plan has funded fuel reduction projects on Cumberland Island to protect private property from wildland fire. The Park's Fire Management Officer has been working with residents for the past year to develop a plan to clear palmetto, shrubs, and dead trees from within 200 feet of private

structures in order to provide defensible space and safety zones for firefighters. The landscaping maintained at the Morris retained estate serves as a model for the sites to be treated. Large oaks and pines shade the ground which has been cleared of palmetto. Palmetto has been able to grow large on many sites as a result of long periods of fire exclusion. A contractor will be selected and work will begin this month clearing vegetation in the areas of the Olsen, Ruckdeschel, Candler, Foster, Jenkins, and Henderson retained estates. Hand tools and a tractor-mounted mower will be used to treat the sites. Treatments will be repeated next winter.



Historic Longleaf Pine Areas in Yellow



Morris retained estate demonstrates the maintenance of excellent defensible space around structures.

Fire Equipment Funding:

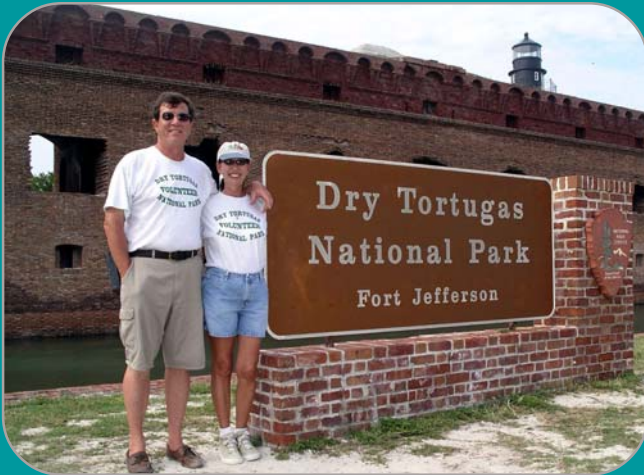
The President's National Fire Plan provided Cumberland Island National Seashore with \$29,100 in funding to augment Camden County's wildland firefighting capability. The money will be used to train and outfit new wildland firefighters, to outfit the County's fire engine at Greyfield with a portable pump and fold-a-tank, and to purchase a new fire suppression slip-on pumping unit for Little Cumberland Island. These funds also provided pagers for all of the members of Camden County Station 20, Cumberland Island Volunteer Fire department.

-Dawn Greenlee
Fire Manager

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Friends of *Cumberland Island*



Enjoying the Dry Tortugas and looking forward to our return to Cumberland Island. See you on April 5th.

Sincerely,

Bernie and Mary Huber



We were all Girl Scout leaders and after our daughters grew up we still wanted to go camping and most of our husbands are not campers. So, we started going to Cumberland twice a year...From 1977-1983 I brought my teenage Scouts for a week every June.

Then in 1984 our group started coming over twice a year. Four in the picture have been coming for 20 years. I just made my 50th trip in October.

Front row - Shirley Bowden, Judy Smith, Weeta Baldwin, Jeddie Marten.. Back row - Susan Thorburn, Barbara Havick, Lyn Brown, and me - Sue Cameron.

Bytes from Brad

Network security is a major issue for the Department of the Interior. Please set aside the time to take the Security Awareness Training for 2005. Successful completion of this critical training is necessary, and then once you achieve a score of 70% or better please print three copies of your completion certificate and forward one to your supervisor, one to me and keep one for your own records. The security training can be taken at <http://www.doiu.nbc.gov/itsecurity/>. This site can be accessed from a mainland or Captain's House computer, but I would suggest if the network is running slow, try and take the training after 9:30am when everyone has replicated their email. The training takes up to an hour and make sure you use a system with speakers. If your score is below 70%, you will need to go back through the training and retake the quizzes.

I will be forced to revoke all computer privileges for employees who have not completed the training and sent me their certificate by April 15, 2005.

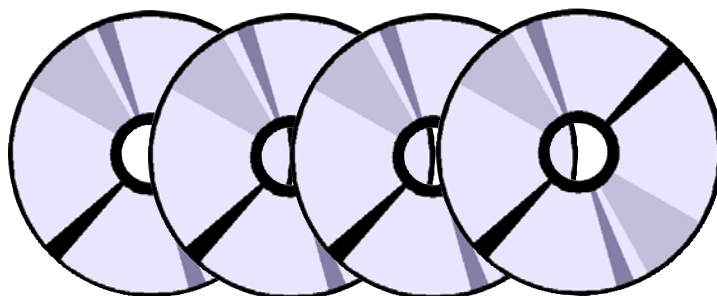
Within the next two weeks, I will be distributing copies of the *Computer Use Agreement* to every employee. Please review, sign and return to me as soon as



possible. This may be inconvenient for you but this is a DOI mandate so please read it, sign it and return it as soon as possible. I will be glad to help you with any questions or problems you may have with either the *Security Awareness Training* or the *Computer Use Agreement*.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

-Brad



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The ruins of Dungeness Mansion have emerged from a shroud of dense vegetation through the diligent effort of Bert Rhyne and series of assistants, including Student Conservation Association interns, volunteers, and Facility Management staff. Beginning nearly 18 months ago with the perimeter tabby wall, Bert and company started trimming away the vines which had consumed the walls, verandas, and facades of the immediate grounds of the mansion. As work progressed through battles with poison ivy, equipment, and heat and humidity, Bert was able to access and remove truckload after truckload of vegetation including tall grass, brush, palmettos, and saplings that had begun to take hold.

The most obvious result of this monumental task is that visitors can now get a much better appreciation for the scope and architecture of what once was. However, the major goal was to remove the destructive overgrowth which can

wedge and pull apart a structure and its surfaces. An added benefit to the project was the coincidental on site inspection by engineers involved in the planning and design for the



Bert on the attack!

stabilization of the ruins. With the dense vegetation removed the planners were able to get a significantly better assessment of the structure and its integrity.

For the future there are two long-term plans for vegetation management within the ruins. First is to keep-up regular control so that it doesn't once again become an enormous undertaking. Second, is that once stabilization of the ruins has been completed, is to enter the structure's interior spaces and remove that vegetation on a regular basis. Bert's tenacity has put the park in great shape to reach those objectives

-John Fry
Resource Manager



Dungeness exposed!



Robert J Coyle Jr. pictured above, with his prize hog kill at the end of the hog hunt this past winter. At 170 lbs, it is among the largest hogs killed on the island. The hog was killed near Ashley Pond.

INTERPRETATION

Island in the Spring

The beauty of Cumberland renews itself
as the forest teems with life.

The ocean beckons, quietly scattering
shells which adorn the shore.

Spring flowers tumble out of the soil and
greet the morning light.

Creatures stir, eagerly seeking
nourishment in this new bounty.

It is a place of wild beauty, a home to a
myriad of species, land of subtle yet
dynamic ecological systems, fragile
coastlines and times gone past

This is your Cumberland Island

March:

Women's History Month- Learn about the women of Cumberland Island. Pick up a book at our new visitor center, the public library or the local bookstores and delve into the lives of the island's fascinating women.

April

Earth Day - Celebrate, preserve and support our earth home by picking at least one action of stewardship from the list below. You really can make a difference.

- * Plant a tree or a butterfly garden
- * Recycle paper, plastic, aluminum, glass
- * Buy products packaged in recyclable materials, and buy products in bulk with minimum packaging.
- * Create a wildlife habitat zone in our near your yard.
- * Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

National Park Week - Celebrate your National Park on Cumberland Island National Seashore. Look for upcoming information about a Great American Clean-up of the beach and trails the week of the 18-24th. Join us in caring for our nation's special places.

May

Georgia Archeology Month. Look forward to attending featured island programs highlighting the rich cultural history of the largest of Georgia's beautiful barrier islands.

-Ginger Hollingsworth-Cox
Interpreter



The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

VOLUNTEER!



Bernie and Mary Huber

Bernie and Mary Huber and Joyce Seward received accolades from the National Park Service at the Thanksgiving Luncheon on the island. The Luncheon was attended by island residents, park staff and volunteers.

Priscilla Nalls, "Volunteers in Parks" Program Coordinator from the Southeast Region presented Joyce Seward and Bernie and Mary Huber, with Presidential letters of commendation for their outstanding contributions of over 4000 hours of volunteer service to Cumberland Island National Seashore.

Bernie and Mary also received a plaque from the regional office recognizing them for being selected as Volunteers of the Year 2004 for the Southeast Region.

Please remember to thank these and other Cumberland Island volunteers for their many contributions.



Joyce Seward

Volunteer Appreciation Week - April 18-24th. Last year volunteers contributed over 16,000 hours of service to Cumberland Island National Seashore. Projects included trail maintenance, beach clean-ups, bird and horse inventories, visitor services, maintenance and restoration of historic structures and landscapes, interpretive programs and products, exhibits, visitor surveys and numerous other projects and tasks. Cumberland Island National Seashore would like to thank all of you who have volunteered your time, expertise, and energy. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Stop by and visit during this week and catch a glimpse of our exhibit "Volunteers in Action".

Volunteer opportunities are available for beach-clean-ups, trail maintenance and restoration, and staffing the mainland museum. If you or someone you know is interested, stop by the museum between 1pm-4pm daily, the new visitor center between 9am -4pm, or attend one of our monthly



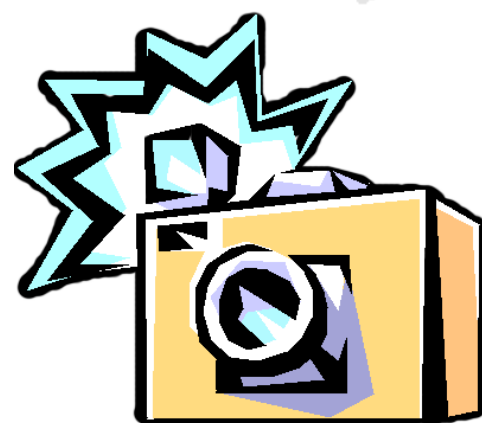
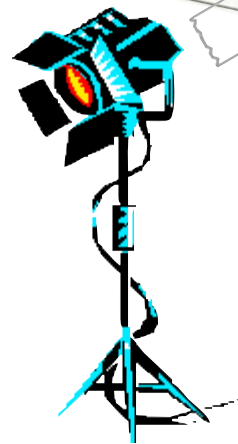
Superintendent Jerre Brumbelow and his step-son Stevenson Fudge collect donations for the Salvation Army as part of a Rotary Club project.



JANIS CANNON, ANNA Cablik, Mayor Deborah Hase, Craig Lesser and Debbie Britt unveil the new Georgia on My Mind 2005 Travel Guide featuring Orange Hall House Museum on the cover. (Tribune & Georgian photo/Mark R. Dorolek)



CLUB STARS



Boomer head coach Rich Gamble (seated) and assistant age group coach John Fry critique swimmers after competing in the girls 11-12 relay events. The girls' "A" team from the Boomers finished first in the 200-yard free, 400-yard free and 200-yard IM events.

1940



Out With The Old...

As the new CUIS Visitor Center nears completion, take this moment to notice how much times change.

...In With The NEW



The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.
EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA